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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) Office Awarded a Subgrant Census 2020 Participation Grant

Kankakee, IL – The City of Kankakee’s Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) has been awarded a grant of \$25,000 to encourage and mobilize “hard-to-count” (HTC) households to complete the decennial census questionnaire online, by phone, or on paper, between mid-March and by the end of April 2020.

The Mayors Caucus announced its 33 municipal subgrantees who were awarded the MMC 2020 Census Participation Grant. This award came after ECDA outlined a number of census outreach tactics for our historically undercounted populations and will work to support a complete count for the City of Kankakee. Kankakee ECDA was awarded along with municipalities such as Aurora, Joliet, Elmhurst, and others.

“We are always moving *Kankakee Forward* by looking for resources for our community and we are grateful for the awarded funds to help get an accurate count. I am proud of the work that our Economic and Community Development Agency is doing. We have a skillful team led by Barbi Brewer-Watson and the plans they are putting in place for Census 2020 will be beneficial for everyone,” said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

The work plan for the awarded grant funds includes outreach and direct service, including paid hours for trusted community partners to assist people with completing the census questionnaire. This will provide residents the opportunity to have assistance

in completing the census questionnaire during community events, at neighborhood meetings, and at other locations in each Ward. Funds will also be used for advertising via radio, newspaper, billboards, and printing to reach the community at large.

Kankakee Economic and Community Development (ECDA) is a local government agency whose mission is to improve the lives of Kankakee residents and enhance the economic vitality of communities through housing, economic development and community development. The ECDA administers programs that serve the neighborhoods and residents of the City of Kankakee provided by federal, state, and local funding.

For more information, contact ECDA at 815-933-0506 Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant, and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow, and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive, and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at www.citykankakee-il.gov.